

NEWS RELEASE

Panhandle

Public Health District

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For immediate release.

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In recent alcohol compliance checks 100% of establishments did not sell alcohol to minors.

The Nebraska State Patrol conducted alcohol compliance checks as part of the Panhandle Prevention Coalition's comprehensive plan to prevent youth from starting alcohol use. Officers with the assistance of youth under the age of 18, completed forty-two checks including convenience stores, grocery stores and liquor stores throughout the Counties Morrill and Scottsbluff.

All forty-two establishments that were checked did not sell alcohol to minors. The efforts of these fifteen responsible businesses are commended:

- Broadwater County Store- 117 E Guthrie Street, Broadwater
- Thrifty's Gas & Liquor #3- 105 Bell Road, Bridgeport
- Sonny's Super Foods- 310 Main Street, Bridgeport
- Panhandle Cooperative Association- 102 W 5th Street, Bridgeport
- Trading Post- 1121 N Street, Bridgeport
- Court House & Jail Rock Golf Course- 8254 Highway 88, Bridgeport
- Cobblestone Inn & Suites- 517 Main Street, Bridgeport
- Settlers Trading Post- 10012 Road 75, Bayard
- Bayard Tiger Paws- 144 Main Street, Bayard
- Chimney Rock Eagles Nest- 7366 Road 108, Bayard
- Kwik Stop 17- 1109 Broadway Street, Mitchell
- Redz Bar & Grill- 1333 Center Avenue, Mitchell
- Company Bar & Grill- 1927 Broadway Street, Mitchell
- Fire House Bar & Grill of Lyman- 375 Jeffers Avenue, Lyman
- Lil Redz- 203 Jeffers Avenue, Lyman
- Pony Express Station- 675 S Kimball Avenue, Gering
- Fresh Foods- 1270 10th Street, Gering
- Little Red Liquor- 500 M Street, Gering
- Loaf N' Jug 333- 2015 10th Street. Gering
- Valley Gas & Liquor- 2055 10th Street, Gering
- Cyclone Express Mart- 2648 10th Street, Gering
- Panhandle Cooperative Association- 401 S Beltline Highway W, Scottsbluff
- Western Travel Terminal- 822 S Beltline Highway W, Scottsbluff
- Frontside- 1001 Avenue I, Scottsbluff

- Big Bat's- 902 W Overland, Scottsbluff
- Cheema's Gas & Liquor- 2002 Avenue I, Scottsbluff
- Hight's Tavern- 20 W 18th Street, Scottsbluff
- Kelley's Liquor- 817 W 27 Street, Scottsbluff
- Walmart 867- 3322 Avenue I, Scottsbluff
- Target Store T-0831- 1401 Frontage Road, Scottsbluff
- Backaracks Bar & Grill- 1402 E 20th Street, Scottsbluff
- Route 26 Mart- 1722 E 20th Street, Scottsbluff
- Goonies Sports Bar & Grill- 1802 E 20th Place, Scottsbluff
- Essential Fuel- 2319 Overland, Scottsbluff
- East O Watering Hole- 503 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- Cigarette Chain- 323 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- 16th Empire-1605 Avenue A, Scottsbluff
- Chino's Mexican Restaurant- 1675 10th Street, Gering
- Swany's Union Bar- 1403 10th Street. Gering
- Rompus Room- 1135 10th Street, Gering
- Stagecoach Stop- 320 M Street, Gering
- Oregon Trail Roadhouse- 310 M Street, Gering

Training for alcohol and tobacco retailers is available quarterly at locations throughout the Panhandle. This training, sponsored by Panhandle Prevention Coalition and Nebraska State Patrol, provides individuals entrusted with the responsibility of serving alcohol or selling tobacco with strategies to avoid illegally selling to underage youth or intoxicated patrons. Responsible Beverage Server Training is available for free to retail merchants, owners, and employees across the Panhandle. The next training will be held August 18th, 2021; visit <http://www.panhandlepartnership.com/training-academy.html> for further details.

Please help us keep the next generation safe; keep alcohol out of the hands of our youth.

Illegal alcohol use by underage persons contributes to crime, car crashes, injuries, and deaths. Law enforcement officers find that alcohol also has a role in many of the more frequent minor crimes and nuisances that degrade the quality of life in our community. Many noise complaints, vandalism, littering, and similar nuisances involve young people who have been drinking. Public health officials report that alcohol use and abuse are also connected with teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and other health problems.

We have learned that the community and our youth are safer and healthier when they do not start using alcohol until after age 21. In Nebraska, providing alcohol to minors is a Class I misdemeanor. Adults who provide alcohol to minors can spend up to a year in jail, receive a \$1000 fine or both.

The Panhandle Prevention Coalition is made up of a group of coalitions united by our passion and dedication to making residents of western Nebraska healthy and safe across the lifespan. Our purpose is to reduce the impact of substance use and abuse including underage drinking, binge drinking, drinking and driving, tobacco use, drug use, and prescription drug abuse while promoting and supporting mental and emotional health for all in the Panhandle. This work is

supported in whole or part, by federal or state funds received from Region 1 Behavioral Health Authority, the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services Division of Behavioral Health, and the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), including Grant #93.243 under the Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success Grant. The Tobacco Free Nebraska Program also supports the PPC as a result of the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

For additional information, visit panhandlepreventioncoalition.org or call Missie Payne, Panhandle Prevention Coalition Coordinator, at Panhandle Public Health District at 308-203-1298. Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community.